

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP

TELEPHONE / EMAIL

PREFACE

The *Medical Student Handbook and Academic Planner* is one of three important publications for reference on University issues. Upon inquiry to the University, potential students receive the first of these, the *School of Medicine Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* describes the University and its medical education programs in general, introduces the faculty and curriculum, and provides basic information about student benefits and obligations, and overviews the admissions process.

The second publication that applicants receive upon acceptance to the School of Medicine is called the *Student Orientation Guide*. It is an informal booklet published by the Office for Student Affairs, which provides useful information on the Officer Basic Orientation programs, getting settled in the Washington, D.C. area, and learning your way around the University.

The third publication, also published by the Office for Student Affairs is this *Handbook*. It rounds out the three by providing important policy documents and procedures to the newly matriculated medical student and medical officer candidate. Changes in policy and procedures may be changed throughout the academic year. In those cases, the changes will be republished, and you will be advised of the changes and provided with additional information.

Use this Handbook as the important reference for which it is intended. Please contact the Office for Student Affairs (Attn.: Assistant Dean for Academic Support Services) concerning information which should be added or updated.

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OATH OF HIPPOCRATES

I ... do solemnly swear

That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine and just and generous to its members, that I will lead my life and practice my art in uprightness and honor;

That into whatever home I shall enter it shall be for the good of the sick and the well to the utmost of my power and that I will hold myself aloof from wrong and from corruption and from the tempting of others to vice;

That I will exercise my art solely for the cure of my patients and the prevention of disease and will give no drugs and perform no operation for a criminal purpose and far less suggest such a thing;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of men which is not fitting to be spoken, I will keep inviolable secret;

These things I do promise and in proportion as I am faithful to this oath, may happiness and good repute be ever mine, the opposite if I shall be forsworn.

**COMMISSIONING OATHS
OF ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE,
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
OFFICERS**

I ... do solemnly swear

That I will support and defend the Constitution of the
United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same;

That I take this obligation freely, without any mental
reservation or purpose of evasion;

And that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties
of the office upon which I am about to enter,

So help me God.

Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way

Those eight words really say it all! Our University, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, was created by Congress via the Health Professions Revitalization Act of 1972. The shortage of military physicians at the close of the Vietnam conflict, which heralded the beginning of the "All Volunteer Force", was responsible for engendering the 1972 legislation; nonetheless, Congressman F. Edward Hébert envisioned the University to be much more than a recruitment vehicle for physicians. Rather, his vision was the establishment of the academic health center for the military.

Posted in each of the buildings on campus you can find the Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles of our university ... our academic health center. The Mission Statement describes USU very well: "The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences is the Nation's federal health sciences university and is committed to excellence in military medicine and public health during peace and war. We provide the Nation with health professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the United States Public Health Service and with scientists who serve the common good. We serve the uniformed services and the Nation as an outstanding academic health sciences center with a worldwide perspective for education, research, service and consultation; we are unique in relating these activities to military medicine, disaster medicine, and military medical readiness."

Those many words are the product of a thoughtful strategic planning process by many of our faculty, students, staff and sponsors. They are noble and meaningful words that describe our values, dedication and understanding of the purpose of USU, but they sure are difficult to remember and to recite.

The basic purpose of all academic centers is the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge. That is what your University is all about. USU is an institution for learning with a specific focus on that which is unique to the military, protecting the health of the force. No matter what your specific role here at USU, you are contributing to that objective, whether through obtaining current knowledge, pursuing new knowledge or supporting others in that quest.

Our mission statement can be said succinctly and quite well in just eight memorable words: Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way!

JAMES A. ZIMBLE, M.D.
Past President
Vice Admiral, United States Navy (Retired)
May 10, 2002

MISSION

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences is the Nation's federal health sciences university and is committed to excellence in military medicine and public health during peace and war. We provide the Nation with health professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the United States Public Health Service and with scientists who serve the common good. We serve the uniformed services and the Nation as an outstanding academic health sciences center with a worldwide perspective for education, research, service, and consultation; we are unique in relating these activities to military medicine, disaster medicine, and military medical readiness.

VISION

We are the Nation's federal health sciences university, recognized as an outstanding scholarly educational center. Our component schools and institutes are dedicated to excellence and innovation in education, research, and service worldwide.

We are a university that grants degrees in the health sciences at all levels, producing outstanding scientists and health care practitioners for the Nation.

We are recognized as the preeminent center for the study of military medicine, tropical diseases, disaster medicine, and adaptation to extreme environments.

We are a major coordinating center for consultation, support, and advocacy for education and operational readiness training in the health sciences, throughout the careers of uniformed medical personnel.

We have a cooperative, mutually supportive and valued interaction with DoD hospitals that enhances undergraduate education, graduate medical education, research programs and patient care.

We have a partnership with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine that enriches our scholarship and contributes to our fiscal stability and maximum development.

We attract a diverse population of qualified individuals and encourage their personal and professional development. Our students, faculty, and staff appreciate that they are essential to the work and success of each other and the University.

We are exemplary in providing access and opportunity for career development to people traditionally under-represented in medicine, science, academia and government service.

We prepare and inspire our students, faculty, and staff for a lifetime of learning, leadership, and service.

Our programs, scholarly activities, faculty, and graduates make outstanding contributions throughout the medical and scientific communities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As we strive to accomplish our mission we are committed to all of the following principles. Each one represents an essential and equally important core value.

CARING

We foster an atmosphere of caring, mutual respect, courtesy, pride in work, and personal development. Each member of the university community is important.

COMMUNICATION

We interact and share information in a timely manner with openness, candor, and sensitivity.

INTEGRITY

We conduct ourselves responsibly, ethically, and honestly.

LOYALTY

We are dedicated to each other, the University, the Department of Defense, and the Nation.

QUALITY

We strive to excel through continuous quality improvement.

SCHOLARSHIP

We are committed to academic freedom as fundamental to the advancement of knowledge and a lifetime of learning.

SERVICE

We are sensitive to the needs of those we serve and are responsive to new ideas and change.

TEAMWORK

We value the contributions of each member of our community and work to achieve an environment characterized by cooperation, collegiality and an appreciation of diversity.